

§Appl. No. 10/579,857
Amdt. dated January 11, 2012
Reply to Office Action of, October 11, 2011

REMARKS

The only issues outstanding in the Office Action of October 11, 2011, are the Rejections under 35 USC §112, §102 and §103. Reconsideration of these issues, in view of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

At the outset, it is noted that claims 2, 3, 7, 9-12 and 18 are allowed. (claim 18 is omitted from the recitation of allowed claims at page 4 of the Office Action, but is listed on the second page of the Office Action with the allowed claims and, as claim 18 is not subject to a rejection in the Office Action, it appears that its omission on page 4 thereof is an oversight.

Rejection under 35 USC §112:

Claim 19 has been rejected under 35 USC §112, fourth paragraph. The dependency of the claim has been corrected to depend upon claim 18, and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Rejection under 35 USC §102:

Claims 1, 4-6 and 20 have been rejected under 35 USC §102(b) over Eustice. Reconsideration of this rejection is respectfully requested.

The foregoing amendments direct the claims to allowed claim 18. Claims 1, 4, 8 and 20 have been cancelled, claims 5 and 6 have been made dependent upon claim 18. Accordingly, it is submitted that this rejection is moot, and withdrawal thereof is respectfully requested.

Rejection under 35 USC §103:

Claim 8 has been rejected under 35 USC §103 over Eustice. Cancellation of the claim renders this rejection moot. Withdrawal thereof is respectfully requested.

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Requirement For Restriction:

It is respectfully submitted that, in view of the allowability of all claims currently under prosecution, claims 13-16 directed to methods of making the allowable invention, and methods of using the allowable invention, should now be rejoined for examination. All withdrawn claims depend from allowable claim 18.

The claims of the application are respectfully submitted to be in condition for allowance, rejoining of the withdrawn claims and passage to issue is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any questions or comments, he or she is cordially invited to telephone the undersigned at the number below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this response or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-3402.

Respectfully submitted,

/Harry B. Shubin/

Harry B. Shubin, Reg. No. 32,004
Attorney/Agent for Applicant(s)

MILLEN, WHITE, ZELANO
& BRANIGAN, P.C.
Arlington Courthouse Plaza 1, Suite 1400
2200 Clarendon Boulevard
Arlington, Virginia 22201
Telephone: (703) 243-6333
Facsimile: (703) 243-6410
Attorney Docket No.: MERCK-3161

Date: January 11, 2012